GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:195
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2006
PURCHASE OF RAW JUTE
Chakraborty Shri Ajay

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the jute growers are in distress due to very low purchase of raw jute by Jute Corporation of India (JCI);

(b) if so, the total quantum of jute purchased by the JCI during each of the last three years in comparison to total jute grown in the country; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of the jute growers in the country ?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 195 FOR 3.3.2006

(a) During the current Jute year 2005-06 (July-June), the prices of raw jute are ruling much higher than the Minimum Support Price (MSP) since the beginning of the season . As a result, the MSP procurement of raw jute by JCI has been negligible during the current jute year. The question of any distress for the jute growers due to low purchase of raw jute by JCI, therefore, does not arise

(b): The total quantum of jute purchased by the JCI during the last three years is as follows:

(Fig.in lakh bales)

2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
Purchase by JCI	Production of crop	Purchase by JCI	Production of crop	Purchase by JCI	Production of crop
13.09	104 (approx.)	11.22	96(approx.)	3.56	85(approx.)

(c): Steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of the jute growers

(i) Encouragement to farmers by offering better raw jute prices every year through fixation of Minimum Support Price for various grades of raw jute

(ii) MSP operation by JCI in raw jute and mesta to provide a safety net to jute farmers to prevent them from distress sale of their produce.

(iii) Continuation of Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packaging Commodities) Act, 1987 keeping in view the interests of jute growers and workers involved in the jute industry and prescribing the norm of 100% compulsory packaging of foodgrains and sugar in jute during 2005-06(upto 30.06.2006)

(iv) Introduction of better retting facilitie

(v) Launching of National Jute Policy,2005

(vi) Proposed launching of Jute Technology Mission